

An Overview of Related Crash Data

***North Carolina Executive Committee
for Highway Safety***

***Ensuring Drivers are Fully Licensed & Competent
Working Group***

Initial Meeting

May 6, 2004

Dilemma

(Licensed Drivers)

Data Issues:

- In the DMV crash database, there is a field for “Drivers License Indicator”
- This field is a derived/referenced field based upon the driver’s license number provided by the investigating officer on the DMV-349 Collision Report Form

Data Quality Issues with this Field

- Bulk of fields either not populated (null value) or contain a “N” indicating no valid driver’s license

2000 - 2002 Driver's License Indicator Values

Fatal Crashes:

- 37 % “N”
- 9% “Y”
- 54% No Value

All Crashes:

- 37 % “N”
- 11% “Y”
- 52% No Value

- Over half of the crashes have no value.
- Data can not be verified from the DMV-349; it only list the Driver's License number.
- Presently, no direct/easy route for engineers to link the driver's license number on the DMV-349 to the driver information/data files at DMV.

1999 Driver's License Data

License of Driver	1999		
	Fatal	Injury	All
	Crashes	Crashes	Crashes
Licensed In State	1,365	126,952	282,623
Resident - No License	487	30,677	67,797
Other State License	185	9,113	21,811
Not Stated	48	2,383	5,787
Total Drivers	2,085	169,125	378,018

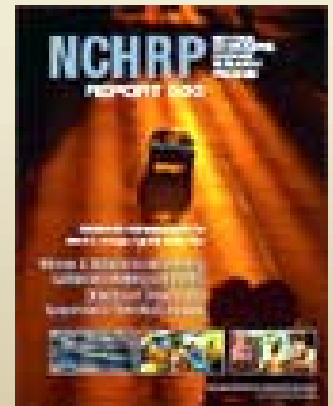
Data from the 1999 DMV Crash Facts book.

- 23.4% of drivers involved in fatal crashes were unlicensed
- Data has not been published in DMV's Crash Facts book since 1999

Ensuring Drivers are Licensed

- In light of the often serious reasons for which driving privileges are revoked or suspended, keeping these drivers off the highway is an important traffic safety objective
- NCHRP Report 500: *Volume 2: Guide for Addressing Collisions Involving Unlicensed Drivers and Drivers with Suspended or Revoked Licenses*

Available at: http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=1549



Competent Drivers

- How to Define “Competent”
 - AASHTO considers degeneration of cognitive and/or motor skills.
 - Look at drivers cited for a “violation”?

Violations in Crashes

74.8% of all Crashes

87.4% of all Fatal Crashes

73.7% of all Injury Crashes

- Age of driver: Covered in other areas
- Speed: Separate Working Group
- Driver Condition: Separate Working Group

Competent Drivers

- Predominant Circumstances by Fatal, Injury and All Crashes:
 - Fatal: *Exceeded Authorized Speed, Crossed Centerline/Going Wrong Way*
 - Injury: *Failure to Reduce Speed, Inattention, Failure to Yield Right of Way, Exceeded Safe Speed for Conditions, Crossed Centerline/Going Wrong Way, Exceeded Authorized Speed Limit*
 - All: *Failure to Reduce Speed, Inattention, Exceeded Safe Speed for Conditions, Crossed Centerline/Going Wrong Way, Exceeded Authorized Speed Limit*